TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SECOND COUNCIL.

FIRST SESSION, 1100.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

Thursday, the 13th August, 1925

The Council met again in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Eleven Thirty-two of the Clock, with the President in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12*—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Transfer of Teachers of Vernacular Schools to their native places.

111. MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state how far the Director of Public Instruction has succeeded in giving effect to his undertaking to transfer teachers in Vernacular Schools as far as possible to their native villages or to any centres in the neighbourhood of those villages ?

(*b*) How many applications for transfers have been received and how many have been allowed ?

(*c*) Is it a fact that the Inspector of Vernacular Schools and his Assistants have been trying their level best to thwart the Director's intention to effect such transfers ?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to call for the explanation of the Inspector and his Assistants as to why such transfers have either been disallowed or delayed ?

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MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The necessary orders have been issued to the Inspectress of Girls' Schools and the Inspector of Vernacular Schools and by them to the Assistant Inspectresses and the Assistant Inspectors.

(*b*) A statement has been obtained from each school of the teachers desiring transfer with particulars of the places where they desire to be posted.

In the Vernacular Schools for Boys, 2,181 teachers in 20 Districts desired to be transferred and 546 transfers have been effected.

In the Vernacular Schools for Girls, 753 teachers applied for transfer and 200 transfers have been effected.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

(*d*) In view of the answer to part (*c*), this does not arise.

Revision of the Salary of Teachers of Departmental Vernacular Schools.

112. MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that the minimum pay and future prospects of teachers in Sirkar Vernacular Schools, especially Primary Schools, are much lower than those of persons with the same general educational qualifications entering the Registration, Excise, Revenue, Anchal and other Departments?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to increase the pay of teachers and introduce a time-scale of pay so that the above-said grievance may be redressed?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) The scale of pay of teachers in Vernacular Schools was revised as recently as 1922. A further general improvement of the scale will involve heavy charges on general revenues and the Government are reluctantly compelled to defer consideration of the question for the present.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): In view of the fact that there is the balance of about Rs. 3,79,000 in the Budget for the next year, and the fact that the Financial Secretary assures us that the revenues from certain sources will be in a flourishing condition for at least 25 years, will the Government be kind enough to reconsider the matter of giving increase of pay to teachers?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Government were aware of the balance of Rs. 3 lakhs and odd at the time this answer was prepared. It was in spite of the balance that the Government said that they "are reluctantly compelled to defer consideration of the question for the present."

Grievances of Teachers of Vernacular Schools.

113. MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): (1) Are the Government convinced of the genuineness of the grievances of the teachers of Vernacular Schools on account of their low pay?

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